

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A bicycle control device comprising:  
a mounting portion adapted to be coupled to a bicycle;  
a control mechanism coupled to the mounting portion; and  
a control lever operatively coupled to the control mechanism,  
the control lever including an attachment section, an intermediate section  
extending from the attachment section and an actuating section extending from the  
intermediate section, the attachment section being operatively coupled to the control  
mechanism, at least one of the intermediate section and the actuating section having a  
hollow zone formed therein that extends axially along the at least one of the  
intermediate section and the actuating section of the control lever.
2. The bicycle control device according to claim 1, wherein  
the control lever is operatively coupled to the control mechanism to move  
along a first plane between a rest position and a operating position and along a second  
plane substantially perpendicular to the first plane between the rest position and a first  
position vertically spaced from the rest position.
3. The bicycle control device according to claim 1, wherein  
the control mechanism includes a shift control mechanism that is arranged and  
configured to control movement of a shift control cable upon movement of the control  
lever.
4. The bicycle control device according to claim 1, wherein  
the control mechanism includes a brake control mechanism.
5. The bicycle control device according to claim 1, wherein  
the hollow zone is formed in the actuating section and has a plug mounted  
therein at a free end of the actuating section to form a hollow interior area.
6. The bicycle control device according to claim 1, wherein  
the control lever is constructed of a cast material that is drilled in order to form  
the hollow zone.

7. The bicycle control device according to claim 6, wherein the control lever is constructed of aluminum.
8. The bicycle control device according to claim 1, wherein the hollow zone is a blind bore that is open at a free end of the actuating section of the control lever.
9. The bicycle control device according to claim 1, wherein the hollow zone extends between the intermediate section and the actuating section of the control lever.
10. A bicycle control device comprising:  
a mounting portion adapted to be coupled to a bicycle handlebar;  
a control mechanism coupled to the mounting portion; and  
a control lever operatively coupled to the control mechanism to move along a first plane between a rest position and a operating position and along a second plane substantially perpendicular to the first plane between the rest position and a first position vertically spaced from the rest position,  
the control lever including an attachment section and an actuating section extending from the attachment section, the attachment section being operatively coupled to the control mechanism, the actuating section having a first actuation surface extending in a direction substantially perpendicular to the first plane and an inclined second actuation surface facing substantially away from the first actuation surface downwardly and towards the handlebar, the inclined second actuation surface extending in a direction intersecting the first and second planes,  
the inclined second actuation surface having a transverse height that is at least one-half of the transverse height of the first actuation surface with the transverse heights being measured in directions perpendicular to the first plane.

11. The bicycle control device according to claim 10, wherein the control mechanism includes a shift control mechanism that is arranged and configured to control movement of a shift control cable upon movement of the control lever along the second plane.

12. The bicycle control device according to claim 10, wherein the control lever includes a brake cable attachment portion arranged and configured to pull a brake control cable upon movement of the control lever from the rest position to the operating position when a substantially rearward force is applied to the first actuation surface.

13. The bicycle control device according to claim 12, wherein the control lever is normally biased toward the rest position in order to release the brake control cable after moving the control lever to the operating position and releasing the control lever.

14. The bicycle control device according to claim 13, wherein the control mechanism includes a shift control mechanism that is arranged and configured to control movement of a shift control cable upon movement of the control lever along the second plane.

15. The bicycle control device according to claim 10, wherein the control mechanism includes a piston and cylinder structure in order to actuate a hydraulic brake mechanism when a substantially rearward force is applied to the first actuation surface.

16. The bicycle control device according to claim 15, wherein the control lever is normally biased toward the rest position in order to release the hydraulic brake mechanism after moving the control lever to the operating position and releasing the control lever.

17. The bicycle control device according to claim 16, wherein  
the control mechanism includes a shift control mechanism that is arranged and  
configured to control movement of a shift control cable upon movement of the control  
lever along the second plane.